

HAMATEUR CHATTER

One of the World's Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Clubs -- since 1917

Volume 09 No. 6 Sept. 01

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From The President's Desk

Dave DeFebo - WB9BWP

With the recent events in the nation and the world, remember that one of the reasons Amateur Radio exists (why governments grant us the use of a large chunk of the radio spectrum) is to provide a public service when needed. If called on, it is our duty to serve in any way we can. If we are not directly needed, we should be aware of what frequencies are being used by those who are needed and stay clear of them.

Now on to club stuff. First off I want to thank the second string meeting people for running the July meeting as Jim Tromblay, Les Hundt, and myself were not there. Thanks Matt and friends for running the meeting. July was a group discussion on radios. We have those every once in a while. We have done antennas, and contesting in the last year or so. August was a miscellaneous meeting. We had a presentation on the lightning damage to the repeater, we auctioned off some good condition vintage test equipment (more on that also), we saw a video on field day by Roger Zaun, all besides the usual club stuff. Hopefully we kept everyone's interest.

One thing we forgot to do (my fault) is vote on a bylaws change we were planning. I will make sure to take care of this at the September meeting. Basically, we are eliminating the position of Second Vice-President (which was established in the mid-fifties) and one director (going from 6 to 5). Why? Next May we will have elections for officers and half the directors. It has been fairly difficult to get people to run for office in the past and I know we will be needing some new people to run on 2002 so eliminating 2 positions should help. That will result in a board of 4 officers and 5 directors (an odd number is needed to prevent a tie vote). That should not be a big deal for running the club with the committee stuff I am trying to get implemented.

Starting at the September meeting we are selling raffle tickets for a 10M radio package, a Radio Shack HTX-10 all mode transceiver and a Par antenna. Both items are not totally new, but as new (the HTX-10 had less

Continued on pg 2

Milwaukee Area Nets

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY
Daily	6-8 AM	14.290	Wisconsin/Florida (SSB)
Daily	6:30 PM	3.645	WI Slow Speed CW Traffic
Mon-Fri	8:30 AM	3.965	After Breakfast Club (SSB)
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.445	Emergency Net
Mon.	9:00 PM	146.670	ARES Net (Milwaukee-Waukesha)
Mon.	9:00 PM	50.160	6 Mtr. General Net
Tue.	9:00 PM	50.160	6 Mtr. 2nd Shifter's net
Tue.	8:00 PM	144.250	Badger Contesters (SSB)
Tue.	8:00 PM	7.035	A.F.A.R. (CW)

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY
Thu.	9:00 PM	50.160	6 Mtr. General Interest Net
Thu.	9:00 PM	146.91-	Computer Net
Wed.	8:00 PM	28.365	10/10 Internat. (Milwaukee Ch.) (SSB)
Fri.	8:30 PM	28.490	MRAC W9RH 10 meter Net (SSB)
Fri.	9:00 PM	147.045+	W9RH 2 mtr. FM Net after 10 mtr. net
Sat.	9:00 PM	146.910-	Saturday Night Fun Net
Sun.	8:30 AM	3.985	QCWA (Chptr 55) (SSB)
Sun.	10:00 AM	443.800+	FM-38 link to 146.88 Baraboo SWAP Net
Sun.	8:00 PM	28.365	10/10 International (Milwaukee Ch.) (SSB)
Sun.	8:00 PM	146.91-	Information Net
Sun.	9:00 PM	146.91-	Swap Net
Two meter (FM) Frequencies are 600 KHz offset repeaters. FM 38 is + 5 MHz. Ten meter (SSB) frequencies are upper sideband (USB).			

Additions and/or corrections are appreciated. Contact: **Pancho Doneis @ (414) 344-4694**

than 1 hour of use). Tickets will be \$1 each and we will sell at least 150 tickets and then draw for the winner. This is not a very planned, slick raffle, it is just something we threw together based on some equipment donations we had (credit will be given later, thanks guys). Think about it, win a complete 10 M station for a buck or two (or three or whatever).

Speaking of donated equipment, this year we have received a number of pieces of sellable items. Just guessing, we so far have received over \$600 from auctioning off donated stuff. Thanks to all who have been so gracious to give us stuff they deem excess (and didn't want to sell themselves). First priority is of course to make sure we make our budget for this year (which had

us breaking even or even a couple of hundred of dollars in the black.

By the end of this year we will have a budget plan for 2002. Then we will discuss maybe spending some money. One place which is in my plan is to discuss repeater futures starting in at the January board meeting. There is a 3 person committee consisting of Nick Broncatti - K9TNN, Jerry - Wahlen - WA9CGE and Tom Fuszard - KF9PU, whose task it is to come up with some recommendations regarding repeater hardware. If you have any thoughts about that, contact any of those 3. If you have any comments regarding the club operating a repeater, contact any board member. In 2000 most board meetings featured budget discussions, in 2001 the topic has been my desire for functional committees and some planning for the future. For 2002

(at least until June) it will be the repeater.

MRAC will have a table at the 91 HamFest November 3. How would you like to be the one who sets up the club stuff and gets in before the non-sellers? We pay for the ticket. If interested contact anyone on the board.

That's all for this issue. I have been extremely busy at work and even out of town at some inopportune times and had some work done on the house (are all contractors -- no I won't say it), so some things I wanted to do have gone waiting (including Field Day appreciation certificates). Things should change in a few weeks. If not, hey, there is always next year's election...

Dave B. Wahlen

MRAC Board Meeting 7/27/2001

The meeting was called to order at 7:00.

Special thanks to Tom, KB9RLB, for having us so quickly after being elected.

Treasurers report -- As of 7/15, \$3459.53 total liquid assets.

The August board meeting will be at Dave's QTH.

The Thursday meetings will have discussions on Field Day and other modes such as slow scan TV.

Brian reports that Field Day was very good this year. He had the most fun this time. The total points was about 1972. Dave has commented that some members out did themselves this year to make the event a success.

The Board has elected to leave the new By-Laws as written and present them to the membership for a vote. The new By-Laws have several additions to better reflect the things the club spends money on and the rules governing the expenses. They also go back to the original format that the club had many years ago. The 2nd VP

and one director has also been eliminated, as they were not part of the original by-laws either.

Classes -- Mark Tellier and Patrick Moretti will teach the class. They will start Sept. 22nd.

Class size is limited and pre-registration is required prior to Sept. 10th. The fee for members will be \$5.00. Non-members \$20.00 plus they must buy their book in advance from AES in addition to the course fee. If the minimum number of people do not sign up, there will be no class. The charge for the class will help the teachers recover their expenses such as overhead slides etc:

The Roster is ready and you can pick up yours at the meeting

The repeater is undergoing several antenna experiments and other changes. Dave finds it disappointing that so few members are willing to get on the net. Wonders if its worth all the trouble? Jerry, WA9CGE, has made two new J-pole antennas for the repeater.

Christmas Party - John, WB9PSE, has made further arrangements. The dinner is: Dec. 2nd. at 6PM, drinks and QRM start at 5:00. John needs help, a committee for prizes and other details. Please volunteer!!!!

The October Board meeting will be a discussion on next years budget. The new budget will be hammered out at the November meeting.

Dave will be appointing and looking for volunteers to be in various committees. Examples are:

Newsletter, VEC, Programs for meetings, Meeting refreshments, Raffle, Field Day, Christmas Party, PR, and Classes. In January he hopes to have the basis for these committees.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10. Thanks again to Tom.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim WB9LNU

Jim WB9LNU
Secretary

Board Meeting 8/27/2001

Previous meeting minutes were read and approved as written.

Treasurer's report — \$3,354.74 total liquid assets.

Special thanks were given to Dave for having us. Next Board meeting at Tom's QTH and the October meeting at Matt's QTH.

The September club meeting will be on slow scan TV. The October meeting will be on model rockets with radio's in them.

Dave, our president, reports that our repeater was struck by lightning and sustained some damage to the antenna and the repeater itself. Matt, Dave, Mark and others removed the repeater and are doing bench repairs. More info next month.

Matt has requested that any club member interested in helping with a meeting program please speak up. Any subject related to amateur radio or operating practice is welcome. Please call Matt and volunteer.

VEC report — Tom, KF9PU, went to the National Conference of VEC's this year. They had discussions on the

extra class question pool and digital modes. Some also asked for additional questions on operating courtesy. When the new extra questions are complete, then they will revise the new Tech questions. It was noted at the convention that the Tech class still remains the most popular class for newcomers. John, KF9XL, says there will be no testing in December, March June and August. All other months will be the last saturday of the month as before.

Our VEC's and VE volunteers have done an exceptional job and should be commended whenever you get a chance.

The vote on the new club By-Laws will be voted on soon. Be sure to pick up a copy if you are interested.

Classes — Special notice: If you are late with registration there will be an additional \$5.00 charged. An Extra class may be scheduled next before the new extra class question pool comes out in July. Watch the Chatter for class schedule updates.

CW — Dick, WB9PTC, will do Mondays and Wednesdays over the repeater

if its operational. Matt and Mark have been sending to each other Monday through Thursday from 9 to 10 PM. They started with ABC's and eventually to sentences. Said they were having fun.

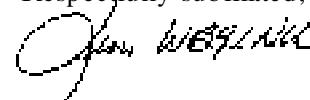
The club will have a table at the 91 SwapFest Nov. 3rd. It has been suggested that we have someone be our official greeter at the meetings especially for anyone that seems to be a newcomer. Tom suggested that we put the meeting agenda on the 91 service net every month.

Christmas Party — John, WB9PSE, is working on the details of the party and needs help. Questioned, do we need gifts and flowers or should we save on the expense. The approximate cost to a member for dinner will be about \$18.00 Pancho will have the details in the Chatter and the registration forms.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00.

Thanks again Dave!

Respectfully submitted,



Jim - WB9LNU

Secretary

to use your ULS number when communicating with the FCC or you will get nowhere. If you don't have a ULS number you can get one over the FCC web site. Code testing will soon have a uniform standard across the U.S. Audio tone frequency and character speed. Special accommodations can still be made for the handicapped at the discretion of the VEC or the VE.

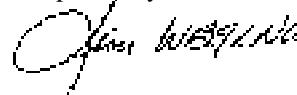
The video taken by Roger - W9UVV was shown of Field Day 2001.

Dave presented certificates of achievement to Brian - W9LCQ, Jerry - WA9CGE, John - WB9PSE, Sarah - KB9ZNC, Mark - AB9CD and Jim - WB9LNU for all the hard work they have done.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37.

Thanks to our raffle and kitchen crews!

Respectfully submitted,



Jim - WB9LNU, Secretary

MRAC Club Meeting 30/2001

Treasurers report -- \$3,354.74 in total liquid assets.

No minutes were read due to the absence of the secretary at the previous meeting.

The mic was passed for all to I.D.

The program for the meeting was delivered first by Matt, KB9PRC, on the damage to the repeater and the proper use of a lightning arrester.

Dave, WB9BWP, auctioned off several very nice pieces of equipment donated by Bill Fullhart, W9WCF. Bill donated a new Radio Shack 10 meter radio and a MFJ antenna tuner and several HeathKit pieces of test equipment. Dave decided that the 10 meter radio will be given away through a special lottery. There will be 150 tickets made for \$1.00 a piece. When all 150 tickets are sold, the lucky winner will be drawn from the barrel.

Dave has added an extra space to the sign up sheet for members to list what special committee they would be interested in --such as Field Day, a club generated contest, repeater, kitchen duties, etc.

VEC report -- Tom, KF9PU, explained what a VEC does. For our members information, Tom does the electronic filing and John - KF9XL, does the on site testing and all of its coordination. Including getting the volunteer VE's to report to the various testing sessions.

Tom reports that at the NCVEC conference this year, they are working on the new extra class question pool and adding extra questions on digital and operating courtesy. He also says that the world radio conference in 2003 might drop the CW requirement but the FCC may not drop the requirement in the U.S. Also be sure

MRAC VEC A

VE Testing Summary- 2000-01

The following is a summary of the activity of MRAC VEC A for the period of time from September 2000 through July 2001.

<u>Month Given</u>	<u>Candidates</u>	<u>Upgrade</u>	<u>Exam Elements</u>
09/00	18	16	16
10/00	6	6	3
11/00	7	6	9
01/01	20	15	23
01/01	8	7	8
02/01	4	3	5
03/01	8	7	16
04/01	27	18	31
04/01	8	7	8
05/01	17	12	25
07/01	<u>16</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>21</u>
	139	108	165

For comparison purposes, the totals for the period 9/99 through 5/00 were candidates 361, upgrades 180, and elements given 364.

The following is a list of VE's who assisted at at least one VE session from 9/00 through 7/01:

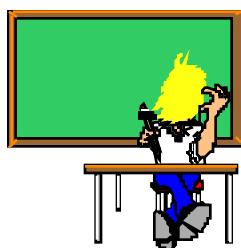
Doug Awe N9VA (4)
 Barbara Brewer KB9TIV (3)
 Mark Bye KB9LDX (6)
 Ken Caruso KS4NX (4)
 Jim Cronin K9UGD (4)
 Pat Cronin KB9RJE (2)
 Tom Czaja KG9EE (10)
 Ken Eggert W9MOT (1)
 Bob Immekus W9CYI (9)
 Kate Kedney KA9MWT (3)
 John Kraak KF9XL (11)

Jack Krause W9JK (3)
 Willard Lorenz W9ZOL (1)
 Dick McNew WB9PTC (5)
 Norm McNew KB9QL (5)
 Patrick Moretti W9UQ (7)
 Joe Mettry AA9DO (2)
 Les Peterson W9YCV (2)
 Sherm Swanson KB9Q (9)
 Jerry Thompson W9SFH (6)
 Jim Tromblay WB9LNU (2)

Respectfully Submitted

John (KF9XL)

John Kraak - KF9XL



VEC Events

MRAC VEC held a mid-summer VE session on July 28, 2001 at AES.

There were 16 candidates, and 11 were successful in either upgrading or in qualifying for their original license. Those VE's who helped out at the session included the following:

Doug Awe N9VA
 Mark Bye KB9LDX
 Jim Cronin K9UGD
 Pat Cronin KB9RJE
 Tom Czaja KG9EE
 John Kraak KF9XL
 Norm McNew KB9QL
 Joe Mettry AA9DO
 Patrick Moretti W9UQ
 Sherm Swanson KB9Q
 Jerry Thompson ... W9SFH

Our next scheduled test session is September 29, 2001 at AES. Thank you.

73,

John (KF9XL)

John KF9XL

MRAC VEC A Exam Schedule

Sat. - Sept. 29, 2001 - 9:30 AM - AES

Sat. - Oct. 27, 2001 - 9:30 AM - AES

Sat. - Nov. 24, 2001 - 9:30 AM - AES

Sat. - Jan. 5, 2002 - 9 AM - AMF

Waukesha Lanes (Near EXPO)
 (WARAC Swapfest)

Sat. - Jan. 26, 2002 - 9:30 AM - AES

Sat. - Feb. 23, 2002 - 9:30 AM - AES

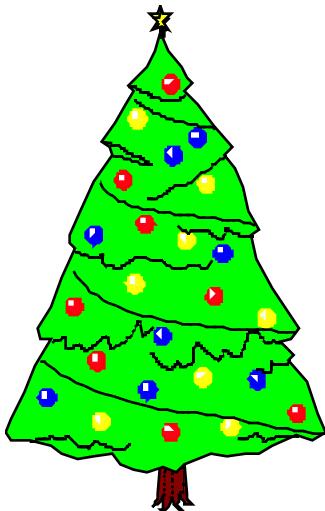
Sat. - Apr. 6, 2002 - 9 AM - AES

(AES Superfest)

Sat. - Apr. 27, 2002 - 9:30 AM - AES

Sat. - May 25, 2002 - 9:30 AM - AES

Sat. - Jul. 27, 2002 - 9:30 AM - AES



Christmas is Acomin'



Come to our MRAC

Christening Party

*Let's celebrate in style and get
Everyone out for the doin's.*

Sunday - December 02, 2001

Hospitality 5:00 p.m.

Dinner 6:00 p.m.

at:

The Machine Shed

I-94 & HWY J

Pewaukee Wi.

=====

BAKED HAM Tender, dry-cured ham from Webster City.

ROASTED TURKEY BREAST Slow-roasted to perfection and hand carved. served with:
cole slaw, cottage cheese, potatoes and vegetables along with fresh baked breads. beverages are:
coffee, tea, milk, juice, or soda.

The total cost per person is only \$17⁵⁰.



Please send for your dinner reservations A.S.A.P. (so we can plan).

We MUST have them **No later than November 21st.**

Please, Allow for Holiday Mailing Time!

Name / Call _____

Guest Name(s)/Call(s) _____



Number of persons _____ x \$17.⁵⁰ per person = \$_____

Please make your check out to **MRAC**

All dinner ticket requests
should go to:

Christmas committee Chairman

John Merkl - WB9PSE

9000 W. Center St.
Milwaukee WI
53222-4625

OR

Club Treasurer:

MRAC Treasurer

Lester Hundt . - KB9QZQ
919 E. Holt Avenue
Milwaukee WI 53207

or to the Club's P.O. Box

Do It NOW!!!

EVENTS

* indicates Vec Testing

Radio Expo 2001*
Sat. & Sun. - Sep. 22 & 23, 2001
Lake Co. Fairgrounds
Grayslake, IL
T/I on 146.16/76 MHz (107.2)

HAMFEST-Minnesota
& Computer Expo *
Sat. - Oct. 27, 2001
River Center
St. Paul, MN

Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club
Annual Radio and Computer
Swapfest
Sun.- Nov. 4, 2001
Saber Lanes
Between Appleton & Menasha,
Neenah, WI
T/I on 146.52 simp.

30th Annual Davenport
Club HamFest/Computer show
Sun. - Nov. 4, 2001
Iowa National Guard Hangar
Mt. Joy Airport
Davenport, IO
T/I on 146.88/28 MHz or
146.64/04 MHz

Ft. Wayne HamFest
Sat, & Sun. - Nov. 17 & 18, 2001
Allen Co. War Memorial Coliseum
Expo Ctr.
Ft Wayne, IN
T/I on 146.88 (-) MHz

MRAC Christmas Dinner & Party
SUNDAY DECEMBER 2, 2001
5:00 PM SOCIAL TIME
6:00 PM EAT
Machine Shed Restaurant
I-94 & HWY J
Pewaukee, WI
No T/In



October

birthdate

Alfred H. Huwald KB9SLC . Oct-01
Richard I. Adduci K9XU . Oct-01
Flash Gordon N9IOI . Oct-02
Robert R Diehl KB9VXN . Oct-05
Leroy W. Shuber KB9JBD . Oct-06
Fred H. Eltzsch W9QMD . Oct-14
Joseph R. Harkness.... W9GZR . Oct-15
Pancho Doneis..... KA9OFA . Oct-15
Thomas R. Gettelman... W9IZO . Oct-21
Jim W. Tromblay, Sr .. WB9LNU . Oct-21
George J. Pfister W9IZQ . Oct-24
Vern R. Petersen W9PGL . Oct-26
Brian W. White K9LCQ . Oct-30

Happy Birthday !!

Buhrle

Please, visit our Repeater.

Use it or lose it.
147.045 MHz + offset.

Meeting Schedule

Our Meeting schedule for the remainder of the year is as follows:

Meeting - Sept. 27

Meeting - Oct. 25

Meeting - Nov. 29

Christmas Party &
Dinner-Dec. 2

See you there!

Pancho - KA9OFA

Credits

Our thanks to our news contributors
this month:

WB9BWP WB9LNU WB9PSE
K9LCQ KF9XL



Thanks also to Kristi Potochnik for
her help in the proofreading dept.
Our thanks goes to John Merkl and
Norman Russell for making sure
that the 'Chatter' gets printed,
stamped, and mailed.

Thanks also to Alfred Huwald and
Myron Hendrickson for obtaining

and serving refreshments at our meet-
ings.

Thanks also goes to Tom Sherlowsky
and Jacquie Horwitz for taking care
of the raffle at the meetings.

Special thanks to all of our officers
(past and present) who have tirelessly
toiled for the good of the Club and
Amateur Radio in general.

Many Thanks

